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Publicity  
[Misc. Pubs.]

Highlights of the South Island.

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Highlights of the  
SOUTH ISLAND  
**NEW ZEALAND**

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

- MARLBOROUGH
- CANTERBURY
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- STEWART ISLAND

Issued by the New Zealand  
Government Tourist Department  
L. J. Schmitt, General Manager.

# Marlborough



T.S.S. *Tamahine* entering  
Tory Channel.

The grandeur and majesty of the great Southern Alpine range which extends for practically the whole length of the South Island, forms a fitting introduction to the many scenic wonders of this portion of the Dominion of New Zealand.

The Sounds, Fiords, Lakes and Rivers also possess an individuality and charm quite distinct from the scenery of the North Island, and for this reason alone no visit to the Dominion is complete without including a tour of the South.

Arriving by air from Wellington, a matter of half-an-hour's comfortable flight, or by steamer, a three-hour's run across Cook Strait, the visitor finds the beautiful Marlborough Sounds awaiting his inspection. These wonderful arms of the sea, winding for miles among the hills, form a glorious cruising ground and holiday resort which is growing steadily in popularity with the people of the North Island as well as with visitors from abroad. The great navigator, Captain Cook, made his headquarters here in Queen Charlotte Sound, during his visits to New Zealand, and in "Ship's Cove," where his vessels were anchored, a fine memorial has been erected to his memory.

The picturesque little centre of Picton at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound, is the natural setting-out place for many delightful launch voyages to points and bays of beauty and unusual interest. There are literally thousands of delightful camping and picnicking spots within these sheltered waters and in many of them the forest comes right down to the water's edge, just as in Cook's time.

A Scene on the Lawn at the "Portage,"  
Kenepuru Sound.







**A Glimpse of the City of Nelson.**

Anyone fond of fishing has a great time here, for the waters abound with many varieties of edible fish. Delightful walks to the summits of the hills overlooking the Sounds may be made in many directions, and the views to be obtained from these points of vantage are magnificent.

Queen Charlotte Sound is also the rendezvous for Wellington yachtsmen on the occasion of ocean racing and also for those pleasure craft which each season make an extended cruise across the waters of Cook Strait.

The illustration at the top of page two depicts the express passenger steamer "Tamahine" entering Tory Channel after a passage of the Straits, while that on the adjoining page shows the



**Picton, at the Head of Queen Charlotte Sound.**

beautiful surroundings everywhere met with in the Marlborough Sounds region.

The City of Nelson, centre of a busy farming and fruit-growing area at the head of Tasman Bay, possesses a snug harbour where overseas liners may berth and load in comfort and safety. The city has a fine Cathedral and College and is beautifully laid out with parks and gardens. The Nelson district is famed for its apple orchards, hop-gardens and tobacco plantations in addition to the large areas given over to dairying and sheep-farming.

From Nelson, road and railway connect with the famous scenic attractions of the West Coast, the main road traversing the Buller Gorge with its magnificent river and forest scenery and leading on to the wonderful lakes, glaciers and mountains of the Westland district. The view of Picton shows how thoroughly the head of this great arm of the sea is protected from all weather by the encircling ranges, while a portion of the crowd that gathers during holiday time at Picton is shown in the picture of the fore-shore of this popular resort.

As depicted in the illustration at the foot of this page, orchards of the Nelson district provide a glorious display in spring time.



A Holiday Crowd at Picton.



The Glory of Nelson's Orchards in Springtime.



The Passenger-Express Steamer "Rangatira."

## Canterbury

The progressive port of Lyttelton, main point of contact with the nightly passenger express-steamer service from Wellington, forms the chief means of introduction to the South Island. The thoroughly modern ships on this run, virtually fast and comfortable liners, leave Wellington

just before eight in the evening and arrive at Lyttelton early on the following morning to connect with the through express train to Dunedin and Invercargill in the far south.

A short run by train through the tunnel under the Port Hills, brings the visitor to Christchurch, known as the "City of the Plains." Beautifully laid-out on the banks of the Avon River,



Lyttelton, from the Head of the Harbour.

Christchurch, with its tree-shaded streets and notable parks and gardens is a city in which to linger and enjoy life before journeying on to the many scenes of grandeur and interest awaiting one at the leading resorts.

Visitors will be greatly interested in the beautiful cathedral, in the splendid University buildings, the many notable statues and memorials in the open spaces and the friendly holiday atmosphere, that pervades throughout the city and its surroundings.

The Bridge of Remembrance  
over the River Avon at  
Christchurch.



Christchurch Cathedral, centre  
of the "City of the Plains."



Points to visit in the vicinity of Christchurch are Hanmer Springs, a short motor run to the north of the city; Akaroa a beautiful resort of great historic interest situated on Banks Peninsula, and the fine ocean beaches of Sumner and its vicinity.

The Avon River is one of the chief charms of Christchurch, its banks shaded by beautiful oaks, poplars and other trees providing an ideal resting-place for city folk during leisure moments. The river presents a gay scene on holidays and week-ends when it is crowded with skiffs and canoes whose occupants are all bent on making adventurous voyages as far along its sheltered waters as time and circumstances will permit. It was about the banks of this river that the first homes of the Christchurch and Canterbury settlers were erected.

A Charming Vista of Christchurch.





In the Famous Buller Gorge.

# WESTLAND

From Christchurch, visitors may journey through to the famous West Coast by train, the line passing through the great tunnel under the Southern Alps, to emerge in the Otira Gorge, walled-in by towering peaks and forest-clad ranges, a dramatic change from the wide Canterbury plains surrounding Christchurch.

South of the coal ports and busy centres of Westport and Greymouth, lies a vast area of country clothed for the greater part in luxuriant forest. Seamed with river valleys and dotted with hundreds of beautiful lakes this country is a veritable



fairyland for the visitor. At the back of the coastal ranges looms the huge rampart of the Southern Alps, the majestic peaks of Mt. Cook, Mt. Tasman and other alpine giants towering against the sky. Breaking away from the western slopes of the Alps, some of the world's most beautiful glaciers descend from the everlasting snows and penetrate deeply into the forest, their terminal faces being only a few hundred feet above sea-level.

The Franz Josef and the Fox Glaciers are the most notable of these great rivers of ice, and both are easily reached by good motor services connecting with the railway and road services at Westport and Greymouth. Excellent accommodation is available in the modern hotels erected within easy walking or motoring distance of the glaciers and wonderful excursions may be undertaken on the glacier ice and along the forest tracks in the vicinity. In



The Mighty Ramparts of the Southern Alps from the West Coast.

startling contrast to the gleaming ice-pinnacles and frozen slopes of the great glaciers, is the dense evergreen forest with its wealth of ferns and mosses overhanging the icefields. During the summer months the beauty of the scene is further enhanced by the scarlet blossom of the rata which spreads like a mantle over much of the forest in the district.

Among the leading lakes of Westland must be mentioned Kanieri, Mapourika, Ianthe and Brunner, all of which are set amid beautiful forested surroundings. Seen under different atmospheric conditions throughout the day, these lakes reflect faithfully every detail of the landscape, providing unforgettable pictures of the magnificence of Westland's scenery.



Light and Shade on the Beautiful Fox Glacier.



The Famous Franz Josef Glacier.



Above: The fine  
Glacier Hotel, Waiho.

Centre: The Franz  
Josef Glacier from the  
Chapel Window.

Below: Ice Pinnacles  
on the Glacier.



The district of Westland had a thrilling history during the early goldmining days when thousands of adventurous prospectors flocked to the Coast in all kinds of vessels chartered for the purpose. Many of these ships were wrecked when entering the river mouths in heavy weather and their timbers lie buried in the sands. A feature of the goldmining in this district is that a considerable amount of fine gold has been gathered from the ocean beaches where it is still being won by prospectors in certain localities. Other visible signs of the gold-rush days exist in the shape of abandoned villages and townships where rich strikes were originally made. To-day gold is being won from the alluvial soil of the district by means of powerful dredges and by sluicing, and many millions worth of the precious metal must still await the prospector along the length of the "golden coast."

Timber and coal are two other valuable commodities of trade on the West Coast, many thousands of feet of building timber and shiploads of coal leaving the main ports each month. The potentialities of the district are immense, and there is no doubt that a great future awaits it in this direction.

At the present time a new main highway which is destined to link up the west coast with the east via the Haast Pass over the Southern Alps, is under construction. Apart from its value for transport purposes, this new road will be one of the finest scenic routes in a district already famed for the magnificence of its landscapes and will prove a major attraction for tourists.

The illustration at the bottom of this page provides a glimpse of the old-time prospecting life of the "Coast." Lured on throughout a lifetime by the prospect of 'Striking it rich' some day, these genial old characters continue to hunt and fossick every likely looking piece of country in the district. Perfectly content to make a living in spite of the hardships of their existence, these old diggers are a picturesque survival of the days when the whole 'Coast' was thronged with miners and rich strikes were the order of the day.

An Old West Coast Miner.





**Beautiful Lake Matheson.**

Motorists are finding that the West Coast provides a wonderful field for exploration and travel at any season of the year. Good roads provide ready access to all the main tourist attractions while there are hundreds of other places well worth a visit. The coast road winds through much rugged and picturesque scenery, one of the most notable attractions of the route being the Punakaiki rocks, an extraordinary building-up of limestone formation appearing exactly like piles of pancakes rising from the sea in irregular rows. Groves of beautiful Nikau palms flank the coastline in many places while the forest everywhere provides good camping and picnic sites. The advent of the motor caravan has proved a great boon to many travellers who may journey on at will stopping wherever their fancy dictates. This mode of travel is particularly suited to the West Coast where there is so much of the unusual to be seen and enjoyed if leisure permits.

The regular motor road services to the West Coast provide the most modern cars which keep up an excellent timetable. Travellers will find them most comfortable and a very pleasing feature is that the drivers knowing the route thoroughly, are always ready to provide interesting particulars of the scenery and the history of the district. This history goes back to long before settlement days and deals with much of the old Maori lore of the Coast.



Caravanning on the West Coast.

This portion of the coast was first sighted by the famous Dutch navigator Jans Abel Tasman, who sailed along northwards and rounding Farewell Spit brought his ships with their ocean-wearied crews to a temporary anchorage in what he called "Murderer's Bay." His reception here by the savage Maori inhabitants is a matter of history, but

it was sufficient to deter the doughty explorer from attempting a landing and he voyaged on to the "Three Kings" and his final departure from New Zealand. At the present day the district in this locality is one of the most fertile in the Dominion.



A West Coast Lake Provides a Perfect Mirror.



The Glories of West Coast Lakeland.



On the West Coast Route to Haast Pass.



Fine Modern Accommodation at Hanmer Springs.



**The Historic Settlement of Akaroa on Banks Peninsula, near Christchurch.**

Caroline Bay, Timaru, popular South Island Seaside Resort.



# MT. COOK

On returning to Christchurch from the West Coast, the visitor may start southward for Mt. Cook and the Southern Lakes, travelling by train to Timaru from whence regular services connect with the Mt. Cook region the main centre of which is the famous "Hermitage" Hotel.

Visiting alpinists consider that the great peaks and glaciers of this region are unsurpassed in any other part of the world. Mt. Cook, highest peak in New Zealand, towers to a height of 12,349 feet, and provides an obstacle to test the skill and endurance of the hardiest of climbers. It is a magnificent spectacle when viewed from any quarter and from the "Hermitage" Hotel forms an inspiring centre-piece to a wide vista of ice-clad peaks.





**Majestic Mount Cook, Monarch of the New Zealand Alps.**

At Left: The Popular Hermitage Hotel.



A Ski-ing Party near Ball Chalet.

In the immediate vicinity of Mt. Cook are several world-famous glaciers, notably the "Tasman" glacier, which has a length of 18 miles with a width of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles. This great river of ice forms one of the finest ski-ing and winter sports grounds in the world. Debouching into the Tasman is the Ball Glacier at the foot of which stands the comfortable Ball Chalet, centre for winter sport championship meetings which are attended by sportsmen from all parts of the Dominion and from abroad. Just above the Ball Glacier are the Hochstetter icefalls, a spectacular sight formed by the crowding-in of enormous ice masses in a narrow valley between the peaks. Other fine glaciers in this region are the Murchison, 8 miles, the Godley, 8 miles, and the Hooker,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles long.



Climbing in the High Alps.

Apart from the alpine climbing and sport available here, the district is one of great charm for all classes of holiday-makers. Delightful excursions may be made in every direction among the alpine valleys and along the sun-warmed slopes of the great ranges. Many rare and beautiful species of alpine flowers and shrubs flourish here, forming an added attraction for visitors.



Climbing Amid the Peaks of the Mt. Cook Region.



Head of the Famous Tasman Glacier.

It is an unforgettable experience to witness the sunrise in the vicinity of Mt. Cook. The great peaks appear to rouse from their icy slumbers as the first rosy rays of the sun flush their summits in delicate tones of pink and gold. As the colour deepens and creeps slowly down over the gleaming fields of ice and snow, there comes the reverberating roar of an avalanche dislodged from its insecure hold on the brink of some mighty precipice. As it plunges downward, its echoes appear to start other avalanches in the vicinity and for a while the sound of thunderous falls seems to be ushering in the new day.

There is interest here also in the noisy appearance of small flocks of keas, the gaily-coloured mountain parrots, whose wings underneath appear to reflect the colours of the sunrise. With harsh calls and long downward swoops, these birds, which according to some observers have earned an unenviable reputation for attacks on sheep, make an early morning descent on the Ball Chalet, hoping for breakfast scraps which they appear to regard as their toll on visitors.

After a day's exploration or climbing amid the delightful surroundings of the Mt. Cook region, the excellent accommodation and comfort of the Hermitage Hotel can be appreciated to the full. The slogan "Thousands of Feet Above Worry Level," certainly holds good at this popular centre.

From the windows and the front of the building, magnificent vistas may be obtained of the Hooker Valley and Mt. Sefton, while majestic Mt. Cook soars high against the sky in the centre of the picture. Immediately behind the Hermitage rises Mt. Sebastopol, sometimes regarded as a testing-ground for amateur climbers who will find an expedition on its slopes full of varied interest. It is not without reason that many world travellers and climbers consider that the Mt. Cook district is one of the finest alpine playgrounds in the world.

Among the many notable peaks in the vicinity of the Mt. Cook region, must be mentioned Tasman, rising to a height of 11,475ft., Mt. Dampier 11,287ft., The Silberhorn 10,757ft., Malte Brun 10,421ft., Sefton 10,354ft., and Haast 10,294ft. The great height of these majestic mountains and the formidable nature of their approaches and slopes, make them of great interest to climbers from any part of the world. Their glaciers, extensive snowfields and precipices, provide plenty of scope for the climber who cannot fail to be thrilled with the magnificence of the scenes which the region provides.



The Spectacular Hochstetter Icefalls.



Dunedin, Capital City of Otago, showing the General Post Office Buildings in the background.



Another Glimpse of Dunedin City.

# OTAGO

The journey from Timaru to Dunedin takes the traveller across the wide Canterbury Plains through the principal grain-growing country of the Dominion. Thousands of acres of wheat, oats and barley are cultivated here each season. Dunedin is one of New Zealand's most progressive and prosperous centres and is situated on Otago Harbour where overseas shipping berths on the waterfront of the city. Fine colleges, a university and many other notable buildings make the city of special interest, its situation on the sheltered slopes of the surrounding hills providing ample scope for the many beautiful parks and gardens that embellish it.

On the eastern side of the city is the splendid ocean beach which open to the wide Pacific, spreads its inviting sands for miles between protecting headlands and is a popular rendezvous for thousands of holidaymakers.

The views to be obtained from Mt. Cargill and other vantage points on the peninsula and surrounding hills are very fine and should not be missed during a stay in the city.



Wanaka Hotel, on the shores of Lake Wanaka.



Surfing on  
St. Clair Beach,  
Dunedin.

Surf bathing on the splendid St. Clair beach provides residents and visitors to Dunedin with a thrilling sport which may be enjoyed here under ideal conditions. Magnificent rollers swing shoreward along the full length of the beach, which is a perfectly safe one for all users. The presence of a well-trained surf club, ready for any emergencies that may arise, is an added factor in the confidence of those using the beach. Bold headlands mark the extremities of the wide sweep of sands and add a picturesque touch to this popular suburb of the City of Dunedin.

The view at the foot of the page depicts a harvesting scene in the "Lakes" district, where the mountain ranges provide an inspiring background to the scenery. Heavy crops are gathered here each year and these operations provide an added interest for the visitor.

Harvesting in Central Otago.



# SOUTHLAND



The Fine  
Government  
Tourist Dep't.  
Hotel at Lake  
Te Anau.

The  
Landing  
at Lake  
Te Anau



From Dunedin, rail and road lead to the great lakes of Southern New Zealand which are ranked among the world's best for scenic beauty and charm. Lake Wakatipu, one of the most beautiful of these inland waterways, has a length of 52 miles and is 1,016ft. above sea-level. Walled in at one end by a huge granite range known as the "Remarkables," the lake is practically surrounded by towering mountain peaks snow clad in winter and providing a striking spectacle under the changing conditions of light and shade. Queenstown, which is situated on the shores of the lake, is a delightful little township and a great resort for plea-



**A Sheep Station Scene, Central Otago.**

sure-seekers during the summer months. Excellent accommodation is available here of a style to suit all tastes, and lake steamers run regularly to points of vantage along the shores.

Lake Te Anau, situated a little to the south of Wakatipu, is 33 miles long and covers an area of 132 square miles. The Government Tourist Department has a fine hotel on the shores of this lake, where visitors will receive every courtesy and attention during their stay. The Te Anau hotel is the setting-out point for motor trips through the famous Eglinton Valley, at the head of which a tunnel is being pierced through the range to connect with the new road to Milford Sound. Those who wish to travel over the famous Milford Track to Fiordland, also make the Te Anau hotel their headquarters, the lake steamer carrying them on the first stage of their journey to Glade House at the head of Te Anau.

From this point the track, which is an easily traversed





On the new Eglinton Valley Route to Milford Sound.



One of the Bridges on the new Motor Road to Milford Sound.



**At Left:**  
Bathers in beautiful  
Lake Wakatipu.

**Below:** A Happy  
Caravan Party on the  
Shores of Wakatipu





**A Suspension Bridge on the road to Cromwell, Central Otago.**

ings. The sheer precipices of the mountain peaks here drop thousands of feet into the darkly-deep waters of the fiord, and from their sides pour countless waterfalls. Dense forest growth clothes the peaks almost to their summits and springs from every nook and cranny in the cliffs where it is possible to gain a foothold.

pathway, winds through the huge gorges of fiordland to emerge finally on the shores of glorious Milford Sound. Comfortable cottages are situated at intervals along the track where travellers spend the night during the three-day journey to Milford.

Milford Sound is built on such a colossal scale that it dwarfs the comfortable Milford hotel to insignificance under its towering walls. The hotel is fitted with every comfort for guests, who are amazed to find a modern building in such tremendous surroundings.



**A Picnic Party on the Shores of Lake Manapouri**



Land of a Million Waterfalls: A Party pauses for Lunch on the Famous Milford Track.

Overseas liners frequently make Milford Sound a first point of call when undertaking summer cruises to New Zealand, and passengers who wish to do so may leave the ship here for the overland walk. When the road is completed it will be possible for anyone to motor through to the Southern Lakes and to commence a tour of the Dominion from Fiordland.

Another of the beautiful lakes of Southern New Zealand is "Manapouri," 12 miles in length and containing on its surface some hundreds of delightful little wooded islands. Good fishing is obtainable in all of these lakes and many anglers visit them for this purpose during the season.

The Province of Southland with its lakes, rivers and forests, has countless attractions for visitors, and in the fine city of Invercargill the stranger is always assured of a warm welcome. Wide streets, fine buildings and beautiful parks and gardens are a feature of the city. From here a number of most interesting tours may be undertaken, to the Southern Lakes, to points of vantage along the South coast of New Zealand, and finally to Stewart Island—a short voyage across Foveaux Strait by steamer.



On the Famous Milford Track.



Highest in the World: The Famous Sutherland Falls, on the Route to Fiordland.



Magnificent Cruising Waters: A Liner Voyages through Milford Sound.



# STEWART ISLAND

Stewart Island with adjacent islands has an area of 670 square miles, and is almost entirely covered with beautiful sub-tropic forest. It is a sanctuary for many of the rare species of New Zealand birds, which are rigidly protected by law, and the marine life of the island shores makes a fascinating study. Good accommodation is available for visitors at the little settlement of Oban on Halfmoon Bay, on the northern shore of the island, which is well sheltered from the weather by forest-clad hills.



Halfmoon Bay and Paterson Inlet.

Paterson Inlet, one of the numerous deep arms of the sea that make their way into the forest-clad hills of Stewart Island, adjoins Halfmoon Bay and makes a delightful inland cruising ground for small boats of all descriptions. The many rocky islets off the coast of Stewart Island are the nesting grounds for millions of mutton-birds, a species of petrel much prized by the Maori for food purposes.

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The High Commissioner for New Zealand, 415 The Strand, London, W.C.2.  
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